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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/562,895	12/29/2005	Wilhelmus Robert Koppers	NL 031034	6921
24737 7590 05/15/2008 PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510				
EXAMINER				
CHOW, LIXI				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2627				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
05/15/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/562,895

Applicant(s)

KOPPERS ET AL.

Examiner

Lixi Chow

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3 and 4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3 and 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CDC)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ishida et al. (US 5,729,525; hereafter Ishida).

Regarding claim 1:

Ishida discloses a method of recording information on a recordable multi-layer record carrier, said record carrier comprising a first information layer and a second information layer for storing information (see Fig. 5A; layer 74 and 76 corresponds to first and second information layer, respectively), wherein the information is recorded such that an area containing actual information on the first information layer and an area containing actual information on the second information layer are of substantially equal size and such that both areas are superjacent (see Fig. 5B; in the first information layer, data are recorded from position 6 to position 10, and in the second information layer, data are recorded from position 11 to position 80; also see col. 10, lines 22-25).

Regarding claim 3:

Ishida discloses the method according to claim 1, wherein the information to be recorded is evenly distributed over all layers of the multi-layer record carrier (see Fig. 5B or Fig. 7B).

Regarding claim 4:

Claim 4 recites similar limitations as in claim 1; hence, claim 4 is being rejected under the same reasons set forth in claim 1.

3. Claims 1, 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ito et al. (US 7,184,377; hereafter Ito).

Regarding claim 1:

Ito discloses a method of recording information on a recordable multi-layer record carrier (see Fig. 12), said record carrier comprising a first information layer (Fig. 12, layer 57) and a second information layer (Fig. 12, layer 58) for storing information, wherein the information is recorded such that an area containing actual information on the first information layer and an area containing actual information on the second information layer are of substantial substantially equal size and such that both areas are superjacent (see Fig. 12; areas 17 and 18 are user data area which inherently contain actual information).

Regarding claim 3:

Ito discloses the method according to claim 1, wherein the information to be recorded is evenly distributed over all layers of the multi-layer record carrier (see the arrow showing the recording/reproducing direction in Fig. 12).

Regarding claim 4:

Claim 4 recites similar limitations as in claim 1; hence, claim 4 is being rejected under the same reasons set forth in claim 1.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 1/30/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Ishida does not disclose "an area containing actual information on the first information layer and an area containing actual information on the second information are of substantially equal size", because Ishida discloses that a portion of the recording area in one of the recording layers contains dummy data. However, Ishida also discloses that any type of information can be recorded instead of dummy data (see col. 10, lines 22-25; "bit sequence signal" constitutes actual information). Therefore, claims 1, 3 and 4 are not patentable over Ishida.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lixi Chow whose telephone number is 571-272-7571. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:30am to 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne Young can be reached on 571-272-7582. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Thang V. Tran/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2627

LC 5/9/08